

THE DAILY TEXAN

TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High
72



Low
48

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

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Catalina Padilla | Daily Texan Staff

In order to increase parking-meter revenue for the city, free parking spaces in West Campus may have meters installed soon.

Parking changes pending

West Campus spaces may require resident permits or payment in the future

By Bobby Longoria
Daily Texan Staff

Scrambling to find parking in West Campus with only minutes left before class may become even more difficult for students and cause an added grievance to surrounding neighborhoods if a proposed parking plan is put into

action.

The University Area Partners, a neighborhood association representing the businesses, property owners and churches around the University area, has proposed a Parking Benefit District plan to the City Council that aims to convert all free parking in West Campus to either paid or residential-permit parking. The UAP will discuss their proposal at a meeting today at 12.

Under the UAP plan, reve-

nue generated by pay stations — which will take over about 400 spaces that are currently free — will go toward funding sidewalks, increasing sidewalk lighting and installing sidewalk foliage, said Brian Donovan, a member of UAP and its counterpart, the Central Austin Neighborhood Plan Advisory Committee.

“There should be a lot more clarity about UAP’s plan soon,” Donovan said at a CANPAC

TODAY: University Area Partners meeting

WHERE: St. Austin’s Catholic Church, 2026 Guadalupe St.

WHEN: Noon

meeting Monday night. “We need a clarification of the boundaries of the area that will be affected, instead of just calling it

PARKING continues on page 2

DIIA begins restructuring with leader’s resignation

By Shabab Siddiqui
Daily Texan Staff

A structural change in a University program designed to increase teaching effectiveness will not provide any immediate changes, but it could provide some long-term benefits.

The Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment — also known as DIIA — will now report to the provost’s office after the restructuring plan was announced last week. The division previously reported to the Continuing and Innovative Education department.

Judy Ashcroft, who served as both director of DIIA and dean of Continuing and Innovative Education, resigned from the director position to focus on her role as dean. Provost Steven Leslie said the change had been discussed for almost a year and allows Ashcroft to focus her efforts on one area, while bringing DIIA back to the office it started in.

DIIA was formed in 2001 as a way to find innovative ways to increase teaching effectiveness through technology and assessment. The department runs several services, ranging from teaching faculty members how to use new forms of technology in their classes to conducting end-of-semester course-instructor surveys.

“I think we have had very visionary leadership from Dr. Ashcroft, and we’re really continuing the structure that she has put in place,” Leslie said. “We’re going to continue on creating excellence and focus on the needs of students better.”

Robert Bruce Jr., who currently serves as assistant dean of Continuing and Innovative Education, will serve as the new interim vice provost of DIIA. A three-person steering committee comprised of vice provost Gretchen Ritter, Undergraduate Studies Dean Paul Woodruff and Graduate School Dean Victoria Rodriguez will be responsible for establishing priorities for future DIIA programs, Bruce said. Additionally, a Faculty Council advisory committee will be created to help in the process.

Bruce said moving DIIA back to the provost’s office will allow DIIA to review programs more closely and better serve students, faculty and staff.

“DIIA researches and promotes teaching excellence and innovation in all of the University’s colleges and schools,” Bruce said. “When you consider that we’re here to work with all faculty, students and staff, it makes sense for us to align with the central academic office.”

Ritter said one of the first things DIIA will be

DIIA continues on page 5

PRAYER FOR AIDS HEALING



Tamir Kalifa | Daily Texan Staff

An Austin resident and activist living with HIV listens to Tracy Jones discuss the impact of HIV/AIDS on the black community. At the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church on Monday, the first day of the week of prayer for the healing of AIDS, Carlos Carter. “If I know one person who is suffering with HIV or AIDS, that means I’m suffering with HIV and AIDS,” Jones said. “We need to understand when one of us suffers, we all suffer.”

Playwright returns to University amid controversy

By Julie Bissinger
Daily Texan Staff

The Harry Ransom Center scheduled a workshop to be led by director, playwright and writer David Mamet, despite an outcry over the alleged racist remarks he made at last year’s workshop.

When Mamet visited UT in 2008 and 2009, he made some remarks regarding Muslims and people of Middle Eastern descent that angered some students and faculty.

The Ransom Center currently houses all of Mamet’s work completed through 2007. To support his archive, he has agreed to visit the University

for a series of short residencies annually for four years, said Danielle Sigler, curator of academic affairs for the center.

The playwriting workshop, “A Journey Towards Meaning,” was originally scheduled to take place today and Wednesday, but Mamet cancelled due to illness. Officials do not know if the event will be rescheduled, said Alicia Dietrich, spokeswoman for the center.

Playwriting graduate student Ben Snyder attended Mamet’s workshop last year.

“I am offended and shocked that the University would invite [Mamet] back to speak to students,” Snyder

said. “Having Mamet come back is in violation of the University’s antidiscrimination policy.”

According to UT’s Nondiscrimination Policy, discriminatory verbal contact is not allowed. This policy extends to on-campus visitors.

Greg Curtis, humanities coordinator for the Ransom Center, sent out a mass e-mail to all graduate students who responded to the workshop’s invitation. Curtis told the students that Mamet would return to campus, despite their disapproval.

“There seemed to be no reason why the visit shouldn’t proceed as

planned,” Curtis said in the e-mail. “In fact, the student response has been overwhelming, and we regret that we can accommodate only one student for every 10 who applied.”

Playwriting graduate student Martin Zimmerman also attended Mamet’s workshop last year and said his statements about Muslims and other Middle Eastern people were offensive and could not be misinterpreted as sarcasm.

“This type of thing can turn into a damaging educational experience when undergraduates can’t sort

MAMET continues on page 2

Alliances look to next phase of elections

Eliminated candidates show support for Parks and Kabir campaign

By Audrey White
Daily Texan Staff

Now that he is no longer a part of the election, former Student Government presidential candidate Aaron Walther has stowed away the wheelchair he used during his Texas Travesty-sponsored campaign as a paraplegic Russian. Austin Talbert, another former candidate, has resumed spending as much time as possible in the Cactus Cafe, his favorite campus spot.

The executive alliances of Talbert and running mate Joe Zimowski as well as Walther and running mate Lara Grant earned 12 percent of the vote between them in the campus-wide general election last week, forcing a runoff

election between the Minator Azemi/Justin Stein executive alliance and the Scott Parks/Muneezeh Kabir alliance.

“I’m very glad Aaron and I ran,” Talbert said. “It was already exciting with two really organized campaigns, but I think because of us, more people that never would have voted got involved in the process. That is a good thing.”

Students can vote in the runoff today and Wednesday at utsg.org. The last presidential runoff took place in 2002. Melinda Sutton, deputy to the Dean of Students, said this year’s runoff shows a heightened interest in SG.

“A lot more students feel as though they can make a difference in the University,” Sutton said. “We’re seeing more students feeling empowered and becoming involved in the SG process.”

Azemi said this election is crucial because this year’s president

Voting

Vote in the executive alliance runoff today and tomorrow at www.utsg.org

and vice president will be facing issues that students care deeply about, such as budget cuts, and because the Legislature will be in session in the spring of 2011.

“It is more important now than in a long time to have leaders that not only say they are going to bring change, but who have actually done that and who students can trust to continue doing that when they need it most — and next year is when students are going to need it most,” he said. “Knowing that Justin and I have been, for two years, effec-



Aaron Walther and Lara Grant, former candidates for the Student Government executive alliance, discuss their platform during the first SG debate.

Tamir Kalifa
Daily Texan Staff

tively representing the voice of students and putting into action what we heard should be something all students can take comfort in.”

From the other end of the bal-

lot, Parks touts a platform focused on diversity. Parks said the work he has done to promote sustainable transportation as well as Kabir’s work for women’s issues and the GLBT community proves they

are dedicated to creating change in SG.

“With our work in advocacy, we’ve learned the importance of

RUNOFF continues on page 2

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Today's Weather

High 77 Low 54

You think you know, but you have no idea

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The Daily Texan

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Monday	Wednesday, 12 p.m.	Thursday	Monday, 12 p.m.
Tuesday	Thursday, 12 p.m.	Friday	Tuesday, 12 p.m.
Wednesday	Friday, 12 p.m.		

Jokester provides off-beat support for SG candidates

By Audrey White
Daily Texan Staff

To vindicate the loss of his favorite executive alliance of Aaron Walther and Lara Grant, publicity director for the Texas Travesty Zak Kinnaird sent an e-mail to about 500 people endorsing Scott Parks and Muneezeh Kabir in the Student Government runoff.

Kinnaird said that if Minator Azemi and Justin Stein had been disqualified by the Election Supervisory Board for the election-code violations they were convicted of last week, candidates from the Texas Travesty, Walther and Grant, would have qualified for the runoff.

“It was so crushing because Aaron would have easily won in a runoff against anyone,” he said. “As a result, it was important to endorse the candidate who didn’t stop them.”

He said he saw sending the endorsement as a funny publicity idea, although he said it was a personal endorsement and did not represent an endorsement by the Travesty.

“Those e-mail addresses were collected from my personal address book,” Kinnaird said. “I just have a very large address book from my years of Ponzi schemes and spamming students.”

The e-mail went out to students involved in both Azemi/Stein and Parks/Kabir campaigns, as well as to those not connected to SG at all, he said. Kabir said she and Parks appreciated the offbeat endorsement.

“We have both a traditional and an untraditional voter base,” Kabir said. “This helps reactivate that and proves it exists.”

Kinnaird received a block on his e-mail account after sending so many messages at once, he said. However, he said that despite this inconvenience, he is glad he sent the message as both a funny gag and a serious endorsement of the candidates.

“I need to turn in some assignments, but do I regret it? No. Well, yes, but only because I can’t turn in my homework,” he said. “I do not regret endorsing Scott and Muneezeh on behalf of Aaron’s stolen win.”

Parking: Plan may be finalized by mid-April

From page 1

the University Neighborhood Overlay district.”

CANPAC developed a sub-committee during a meeting on Monday consisting of separate neighborhood representatives that will address their concerns about the plan to the UAP. They hope a study will be conducted to determine how traffic generated from commuters under the proposed plan may negatively affect their areas, how much revenue the meters could make and how many spots are actually available.

The University Neighborhood Overlay ordinance was passed in 2004 and allowed developers to build past height entitlements if they redeveloped the sidewalks surrounding their project, Donovan said. It also required that parking spaces within apartment garages be leased separately from a tenant’s apartment lease.

He estimates that there are more than 500 parking spaces in garages that are vacant, and they typically run in value of \$75 to \$100 a month. He said residents of apart-

ment complexes may park in free spaces in the streets to avoid paying for a parking space.

There are currently more than 500 free parking spaces in West Campus, 100 of which may be converted to residential permit parking for tenants of single-family homes under the UAP plan, Donovan said.

Members of CANPAC represent the seven neighborhoods around the University, including Shoal Crest and the UAP members.

Some CANPAC members have spoken out against the parking proposal, saying that it will only drive the hundreds of commuters looking for parking in West Campus northward, into their neighborhoods.

“This will push the cars a couple blocks north. We do not want to have the UAP displace their parking into our neighborhood,” said Adam Stephens, president of the Shoal Crest neighborhood association and member of CANPAC. “The stated benefit is to do these sidewalk improvements. The unstated — the obvious benefactors to this plan — would be parking-garage owners who are currently not leased to full capacity.”

Mike McHone, vice president of UAP and one of the major proponents of the proposal, is a real-estate broker who has represented clients that are developers of projects such as The Block and Mitch Ely Properties in West Campus. He said allegations that the parking plan is an effort to attract more people to use apartment garages is unfounded.

“It’s just an ill-informed opinion, because most of UAP is open to everyone,” McHone said.

He said the group is primarily represented by students



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Austin Talbert, a former candidate for Student Government, speaks at The Travesty Debate on Feb. 24.

Runoff: Campaigns re-energize voters

From page 1

making sure all perspectives are at the table to come to the best decisions,” Parks said. “We look forward to continuing to advocate for students on even bigger issues.”

Although Walther said he is not endorsing because “there is no substance to anything that goes on in SG,” he said he had more pos-

itive personal interactions with Parks and Kabir than with Azemi and Stein throughout the election process. Talbert said he openly endorses Parks and Kabir and is working to reach out to his supporters to encourage them to vote for the alliance because he believes they are more likely to create change and relevance within SG.

As candidates prepared for the

runoff, both campaigns worked to re-energize their voter bases and gather support. Azemi said he hopes that, no matter the outcome, students will see the significance of this runoff and participate by voting.

“I’ve done research, and generally fewer people turn out for runoffs in elections,” Azemi said. “Hopefully, we can defy the odds.”

Mamet: Graduate student forsee ‘damaging educational experience’

From page 1

through what [Mamet] has to say,” Zimmerman said.

He said he does not support the reasoning that the Ransom Center gave for bringing Mamet

back. Zimmerman received Curtis’s e-mail and said he believed the Ransom Center gave a bad justification for bringing Mamet back.

“[Mamet’s popularity] is the absolute worst reason to bring back the workshop,”

— Martin Zimmerman
Graduate student

Playwriting graduate student Diana Grisanti replied to Curtis via e-mail.

“I am disappointed by UT’s

lack of political will and readiness to accommodate — and implicitly laud — racist and [chauvinistic] behavior,” Grisanti said.

Students concerned with Mamet’s return to campus can voice their opinion at a town-

hall style meeting Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building.

Mamet is an Oscar and Tony nominated screenwriter. He is famous for writing the Oscar-nominated screenplays for “Wag

the Dog” and “The Verdict.” He has authored numerous award-winning plays, including “American Buffalo” and “Glengarry, Glen Ross,” for which he won a Pulitzer Prize.

News Briefly

University enters competition for green energy research grant

The University is competing for a “Fuels from Sunlight” grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

The grant will fund research on alternate energy sources. UT, along with the University of Colorado at Boulder, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National Renewable Energy Lab will have to apply for the grant by March 29.

If the University gets the grant, Congress will give \$5 million to UT, \$5 million to MIT and \$11 million to the Energy Lab and Boulder teams for the first year. The department will then give an expected \$5 million per year to each member for the next four years.

Raymond Orbach, director of UT’s Energy Institute, said the results of the research could benefit the world by taking harmful carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.

It could also be economically valuable by creating many job opportunities in green energy fields.

“Whole companies are going to use alternative fuel, and we would love to have those companies in Texas,” Orbach said. “If the research is successful, a whole new industry will be created.”

The UT System Board of Regents passed a proposal to spend \$15 million from the Permanent University Fund to finish construction of the sixth floor of the Norman Hackerman Building if UT’s team is chosen for the grant. The floor will be home to the UT branch of the Energy Innovation Hub.

Marlene Martinez, head of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Sunlight to Fuels program, said the Hub’s main goal is funding basic research for sunlight energy. She said that a selection for the grant will be made in June, and if everything goes smoothly, the money will be awarded in September.

— Audria Choudhury

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WORLD BRIEFLY

Earthquake in Turkey kills 57

OKCULAR VILLAGE, Turkey — A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6 struck eastern Turkey on Monday, killing 57 people as it knocked down stone or mud-brick houses and minarets in at least six villages, the government said.

The government's crisis center said about 100 other people were injured in the quake, which hit at 4:32 a.m. (0232 GMT, 9 p.m. EST Sunday) in Elazig province, about 340 miles (550 kilometers) east of Ankara, the capital.

The earthquake, which caught many people as they slept, was centered near the village of Basyurt and followed by more than 30 aftershocks, the strongest measuring 5.5 and 5.1, the Kandilli seismology center said.

The worst-hit area was the village of Okcular, where some 17 people were killed and homes crumbled into piles of dirt. Another 13 people were killed in the village of Yukari Demirci, Gov. Muammer Erol said.

Suicide bomber strikes Pakistan

LAHORE, Pakistan — A suicide car bomber struck a building where police interrogate high-value suspects in Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore on Monday, killing at least 12 people and wounding 61 more including women taking children to school, officials said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility, but suspicion fell on the Pakistani Taliban and allied militant groups. Those groups are believed responsible for a wave of attacks that killed more than 600 people starting in October, including several in major Pakistani cities. More recent attacks have been confined to remote northwest regions near Afghanistan.

The bomb blast Monday comes amid reports of a Pakistani crackdown on Afghan Taliban and al-Qaida operatives using its soil. Among the militants said to have been arrested is the Afghan Taliban's No. 2 commander, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar.

The explosion went off outside a Punjab province police building, police official Zulfikar Hameed said. It appeared the suicide bomber rammed a car packed with as much as 1,300 pounds (600 kilograms) of explosives into the building's perimeter wall, officials said.

NATO continues Afghan offense

KABUL — U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates arrived in Afghanistan early Monday as coalition forces continue to restore order in the town of Marjah, the first major test of the U.S. and NATO counterinsurgency strategy since President Barack Obama ordered 30,000 new American troops to blunt the Taliban's momentum.

Gates said the offensive that began last month is encouraging, but stopped short of saying the success in Marjah suggests that the war is at a turning point. The Marjah campaign routed most Taliban fighters from a town they once controlled, without a high casualty toll for U.S. troops and the Afghan security forces fighting alongside them.

"People still need to understand there is some very hard fighting, very hard days ahead," cautioned Gates against optimism to reporters traveling with him for the unannounced visit.

During his visit, Gates is meeting with his top military commanders and senior Afghan officials.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

Nigeria mourns dead in religious killings

Attacks part of sectarian violence between villages of Muslims, Christians

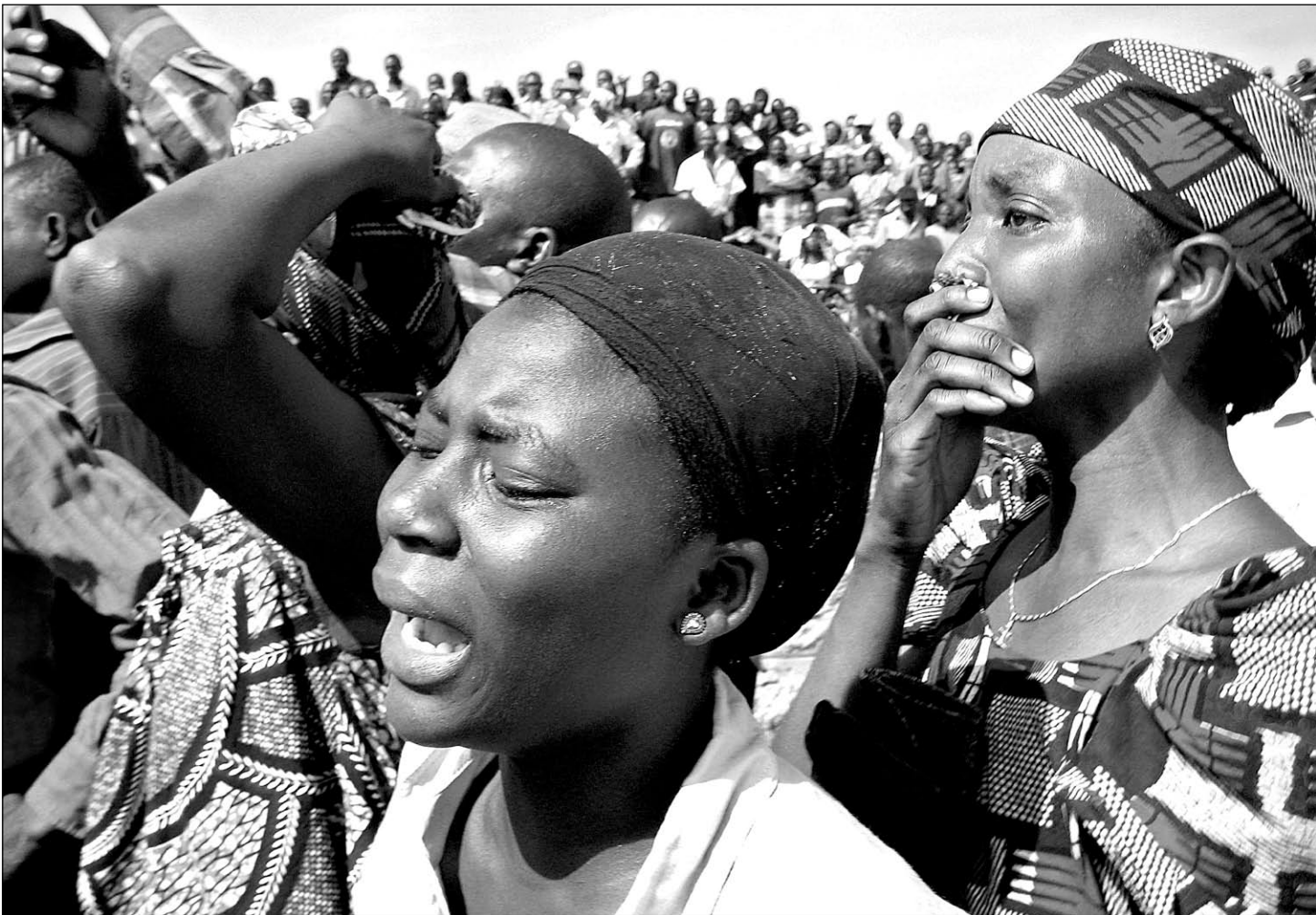
By Jon Gambrell
The Associated Press

DOGO NAHAWA, Nigeria — The killers showed no mercy: They didn't spare women and children, or even a 4-day-old baby, from their machetes. On Monday, Nigerian women wailed in the streets as a dump truck carried dozens of bodies past burned-out homes toward a mass grave.

Rubber-gloved workers pulled ever-smaller bodies from the dump truck and tossed them into the mass grave. A crowd began singing a hymn with the refrain, "Jesus said I am the way to heaven." As the grave filled, the grieving crowd sang: "Jesus, show me the way."

At least 200 people, most of them Christians, were slaughtered on Sunday, according to residents, aid groups and journalists. The local government gave a figure more than twice that amount but offered no casualty list or other information to substantiate it.

An Associated Press reporter counted 61 corpses, 32 of them children, being buried in the mass grave in the village of Dogo Nahawa on Monday. Other victims would be buried elsewhere. At a local morgue, the bodies of children, including a diaper-clad toddler, were tangled together. One appeared to have been scalped. Others had severed hands and feet.



Jon Gambrell | Associated Press

Crowds react Monday to the killing of more than 200 Christians in Dogo Nahawa, Nigeria. The local government has not offered an official casualty list for the massacre, which occurred Sunday.

The horrific violence comes after sectarian killings in the region in January left more than 300 dead, most of them Muslim. Some victims were shoved into sewer pits and communal wells.

Sunday's bloodshed in three mostly Christian villages appeared to be reprisal attacks, said Red Cross spokesman Robin Waubo.

Nigeria is almost evenly split

between Muslims in the north and Christians in the south. The recent bloodshed has been happening in central Nigeria in towns which lie along the country's religious fault line. It is Ni-

geria's "middle belt," where dozens of ethnic groups vie for control of fertile lands. Muslim-Christian battles killed up to 700 people in 2004, and more than 300 residents died in 2008.

Obama 'fired up' over bill appeals

President calls students to campaign for passage of health care reforms

By David Espo & Julie Pace
The Associated Press

GLENSIDE, Pa. — Stirring memories of his campaign for the White House, President Barack Obama made a spirited, shirt-sleeved appeal for passage of long-stalled health care changes Monday as Democratic congressional leaders worked on legislation they hope can quickly gain passage.

"Let's seize reform. It's within our grasp," the president implored his audience at Arcadia University, the first outside-the-Beltway appearance since he vowed last week to do everything in his power to push his health care plan into law.

The president's pitch was part denunciation of insurance companies — "they continue to ration care on the basis of who's sick and who's healthy," he said — and part criticism of his Republican critics. "You had 10 years. What happened? What were you doing?" he taunted members of a party that held the White House for eight years and control of Con-

gress for a dozen.

The outcome could affect almost every American, changing the ways they receive and pay for health care — and extending coverage to tens of millions more people — if the legislation gains final approval.

"I'm kind of fired up," Obama remarked, a variation on his oft-stated 2008 refrain, "Fired up. Ready to go." And he included an appeal to his audience — many of whom were students — to help in the same ways they might in a campaign. "So I need you to knock on doors. Talk to your neighbors. Pick up the phone," he urged them.

In general, Obama wants legislation to expand health care to many millions who lack it, with subsidies to defray the costs for lower-income families as well as small businesses. In addition, he has called on Congress to ban insurance industry practices such as denial of coverage because of pre-existing conditions.

The White House has called for action on the broad health care legislation by March 18, but it seems virtually impossible for Congress to complete both bills by then.



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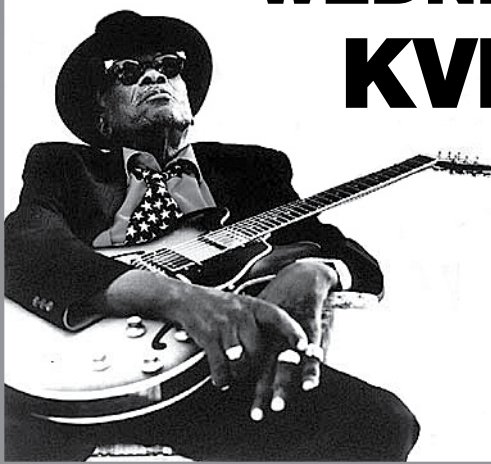


Current Research Opportunities

Age	Compensation	Requirements	Timeline
Men and Women 18 to 55	Call for compensation details	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 32	Fri. 12 Mar. through Mon. 15 Mar. Fri. 19 Mar. through Mon. 22 Mar. Fri. 26 Mar. through Mon. 29 Mar. Fri. 2 Apr. through Mon. 5 Apr.
Men 18 to 45	Up to \$1500	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 30	Tue. 16 Mar. through Sat. 20 Mar. Outpatient Visit: 23 Mar.
Men and Postmenopausal or Surgically Sterile Women 18 to 50	Up to \$1600	Healthy & Non-Smoking	Thu. 18 Mar. through Mon. 22 Mar. Outpatient Visits: 26 Mar. & 2 Apr.
Men and Postmenopausal or Surgically Sterile Women 18 to 45	Up to \$1000	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 30 Weigh between 132 and 220 lbs.	Wed. 24 Mar. through Fri. 26 Mar. Outpatient Visits 27, 28 Mar & 1 Apr.
Women 18 to 40	Up to \$4000	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 19 and 30 Weigh between 110 and 250 lbs.	Two Weekend Stays Multiple Outpatient Visits
Men and Women 18 to 50	Up to \$1200	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 32	Wed. 24 Mar. through Mon. 29 Mar.
Men and Women 18 to 45	Up to \$2500	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 19 and 32	Thu. 1 Apr. through Sat. 3 Apr. Thu. 8 Apr. through Sat. 10 Apr. Thu. 15 Apr. through Sat. 17 Apr. Thu. 22 Apr. through Sat. 24 Apr. Outpatient Visit: 28 Apr.

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ENDORSEMENT

Vote today for Parks and Kabir

One week ago, the editorial board endorsed in the Student Government presidential election. With the runoff beginning today and running through Wednesday, we would like to clarify and expand on our endorsement.

Minator Azemi and Justin Stein's public affiliations — their ties to past and present SG leadership and their admitted membership in the anonymous organization the Eyes of Texas — have weighed heavily on our consideration of their candidacy. We find these affiliations relevant for a number of reasons, and we considered other facts in our endorsement.

We believe that the endorsements candidates receive truly reflect on their candidacies. Individuals endorse to support candidates with whom they agree and who might lead as they would. When Sarah Palin endorsed Gov. Rick Perry's gubernatorial bid, we did not dismiss it as inconsequential.

That's why it matters that former SG presidents Andrew Solomon and Keshav Rajagopalan have endorsed Azemi and that many members of the current SG leadership support his candidacy: The editorial board does not agree with their fundamental approach to student governance. We believe that students know best what students want, and we think the actions of these former leaders demonstrate a belief in a system in which students elect elites who, alone, decide what is best for students.

Azemi solidified our fear that he did not appreciate the value of transparency when he responded to our request about the current administration's role in closing crucial Tuition Policy Advisory Committee meetings to the public by saying, "As students who elected the president ... you have to have at least some sort of faith that when those people go into the room that you have faith that they are representing what you as a student want."

When we pressed for clarification, Stein jumped in to explain that he and Azemi felt that the members of the tuition committee should have solicited more input from students — but the damage was done. Maybe we're just cynical, but we don't believe in blind faith in our leaders.

We have also found past and current SG leaders too trusting of the UT administration — to which SG should be representing student voice — and unwilling to disagree with administrators, even on behalf of students. So when Azemi wrote that "I believe that this mutual respect and trust I have already built with the administration will enhance my ability to represent [the student] voice" in a Daily Texan questionnaire, we simply couldn't get past the word "trust."

And though Azemi has expressed tepid support for domestic partner benefits on campus, he has on multiple occasions noted that he first plans to try to convince the administration of the issue's importance before attempting to make a case to the Legislature, where the real focus of the issue lies.

The Eyes of Texas is relevant to our endorsement because — as many times as its known members tell us that the organization is home to good people with good intentions — we've only come to know the Eyes for some of its members' roles last year in illegally campaigning for candidates, including Azemi and Stein, who were then running as University-wide representatives.

Secret organizations are all well and good — until they get involved in politics. Campaigning, like governing, must be conducted in public. Both Azemi and Stein told us that they believe they were invited to join the organization because of their involvement in SG, leading us to the conclusion that the organization is, at least in some respects, political.

As firm believers in the power of public discourse, universal knowledge and inclusive leadership, we cannot support candidates who have given us every indication that they do not share those values.

Scott Parks and Muneezeh Kabir, on the other hand, have been more outspokenly critical of current SG culture. They have mobilized a diverse group of supporters, including both those traditionally involved in SG and those traditionally underrepresented by and, perhaps more commonly, disenfranchised with SG — including members of this board.

With both their rhetoric and their resumes, Parks and Kabir have convinced us that they're committed to cultural change in SG and progress on social-justice issues at UT.

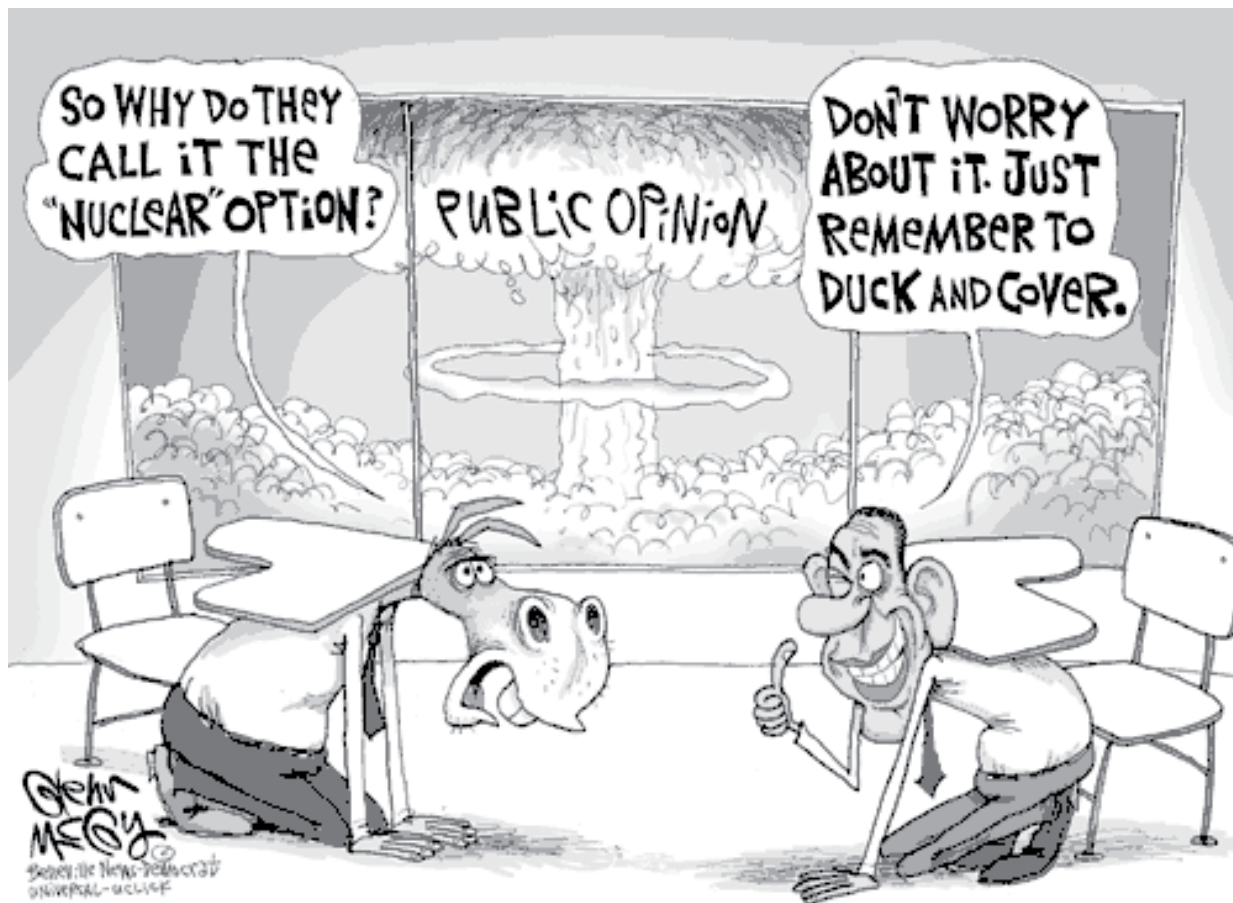
Kabir nearly summed up our endorsement when she wrote in her questionnaire: "My social-justice experience makes me the most qualified candidate when it comes to making Student Government a more open and inclusive organization, a change it desperately needs. I am proud that my supporter base is a far cry from homogeneous. We have made a conscious effort to engage students from all over campus."

Parks/Kabir supporters are also committed to making UT more female- and GLBT-friendly and accessible to underprivileged Texans. We believe these supporters will hold Parks and Kabir accountable as they work toward these goals next year. We hope to be able to as well.

Vote today at utsg.org.

— The editorial board

GALLERY



Protests give students a voice, but what's the message?



By Andrew Kreighbaum
Daily Texan Columnist

More than 9,000 students voted in the Student Government elections March 2 and 3, almost matching the record set in 2004, in which 11,000 students voted. That turnout followed a year in which SG members were most often noted for voting to raise tuition (as part of the Tuition Policy Advisory Committee), cutting the music programs at the Cactus Cafe and debating parliamentary procedures during their weekly meetings.

The next day was National Day of Action to Defend Education, which originated with demonstrations at the University of California, Berkeley, but spread to college campuses throughout the country. But even if participation levels are near the all-time high on campus, that leaves all but 23 percent of UT students who are either totally disengaged from Student Government or just see it as irrelevant.

Enter the Stop the Cuts Coalition, the Texas group that began organizing last fall in conjunction with the Texas State Employees Union to fight the cuts.

The protests that have taken place outside the Tower this week suggest that a significant number of students don't expect their perspective to be represented by SG, regardless of who is elected to serve.

That shouldn't be entirely surpris-

ing. There are few mechanisms for holding SG leaders accountable for their decisions — the UT System maintains that such organizations, and thus TPAC, are not subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act. And students' only representative on the Board of Regents lacks the power of a vote. For many students, their elected representatives have been far too conservative in their interactions with the administration.

And so on March 4, more than 150 students and several faculty and staff members joined protests across the nation to fight back against rising tuition and budget cutbacks hitting universities across the country.

But the members of the Stop the Cuts Coalition at UT seem to be struggling to stick to a message — if they've found one yet. The protesters amassed on the West Mall carried signs protesting ongoing budget cuts at the University, gender inequality, the possible closure of the Cactus Cafe and tuition increases — basically a laundry list of things gone wrong at UT over the last several years. The demonstrators say that it all points to a gradual move to privatize education.

That may be the case. Higher education across the country seems headed toward a system in which students and parents pay for costs traditionally borne by state governments. But who is to blame for UT's predicament? Is it a tone-deaf President William Powers Jr.? The Texas Legislature? Gov. Rick Perry?

Mack Brown's \$2 million pay raise might be well deserved after getting the Longhorns back in the national title game, but it was bound to cause some ill will

on campus. And administrators at the very top have been slow to announce even any symbolic acts of belt-tightening to show their solidarity with the rest of the campus. Of course, one speaker at Thursday's rally said white supremacists were responsible for the rising costs of education today, just as they were responsible for stealing Native Americans' land in the nineteenth century.

It's not often that crowds of UT students gather on campus to demonstrate (except, of course, during football season), so the protests have drawn some attention to dissatisfaction with UT administrators that may have been absent from forums on tuition increases earlier this year. But in calling for so many changes at once, often in radical tones, the demonstrators risk achieving none of them.

Higher education funding doesn't exist in a vacuum in any state. Texas, like many others, is looking at major gaps in its upcoming budget cycle. Colleges and universities will fall victims to budget-cutting directives just like any other state agency. And after the UT System Board of Regents approved 5-percent tuition increases last week, there's no going back on higher costs of attending this campus. The Tower should be listening after last week, so Stop the Cuts should focus on where it can make an impact, like getting a voice on where cuts may be made in the future and more creative ways to save money on campus. But with so many messages, activists on campus may just create a lot of noise.

Kreighbaum is a history senior.

GALLERY



SUBMIT A COLUMN

The editorial board welcomes guest columns. Columns must be under 700 words. Send columns to editor@dailytexanonline.com. The Texan reserves the right to edit all columns for clarity and liability.

LEGALESE

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A poor parking decision



By Joshua Avelar
Daily Texan Columnist

Austin is a great city with plenty of things to do, explore and enjoy whenever UT is out of session. But the stable relationship between Austinites and UT students may be in jeopardy as one UT Student Government external appointment coalition is out to rock the boat.

The University Area Partners, a coalition of property owners, businesses, churches and the like, are pushing the city to add new parking meters in West Campus, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

The coalition hopes to see the arrival of 400 new meters, which would reduce the amount of free parking spots available to only 300-400 in the heavily cluttered West Campus.

The rationale behind this demand for new meters is to deter students from parking so frequently in that area and to collect money for projects such as sidewalk-building and lighting improvements.

According to a map provided by the Statesman, a great deal of West Campus is already ridden with meters. Adding 400 more will make it nearly impossible for anyone to find parking in this UT community hotspot.

The members of the coalition believe that the potential revenue generated will be enough to fix the small problems that they face every day. One of the problems most cited by members of the coalition to the Statesman was that of cars being parked in the same free spots for days, weeks or months at a time.

To fix some minor problems in the communi-

ty, the coalition sees fit to suck more money out of desperate students trying to find parking on their way to attending class, going to work or seeing fellow Longhorns in the neighborhood.

The entire process of adding more meters is a lazy way for the city to collect revenue. Having a meter collect money throughout the day requires no manpower until 5:45 p.m. arrives and it's time to collect the money.

Any nuisances created by those who park frequently in West Campus can easily be remedied by city officials actually doing their entire job. People crowd the narrow streets of West Campus and leave their cars unattended over long periods of time because they can rest assured that they will not get caught for doing either.

It's not uncommon to find people illegally parking in West Campus, especially on a Friday or Saturday night. The revenue that the coalition hopes to gain from new meters is really standing right in front of them: It should take some simple policing of parked vehicles. A simple enforcement of already existing city laws is the best way to avoid this headache in the making.

Most importantly, the addition of new meters to West Campus will cause the students who now park in the free spaces to go on a search for parking in other neighborhoods that border West Campus. The terrible student-parking issues seem restricted to students. Right now, students are merely annoying other students with their parking habits in a heavily student-populated neighborhood.

A spillover into other residential neighborhoods will strain the relationship we have with the Austin community, and taking additional revenue from meters is not worth that risk.

Avelar is a government senior.

Supporters draft proposals trying to preserve cafe

By Katherine Noble
Daily Texan Staff

Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe met Monday to discuss its draft proposal to save the cafe from closing in August.

The proposal, along with a proposal drafted by the Student Events Center and another drafted by accounting student Taylor Steinberg and corporate communication senior John Meller, aims to help the Union Board reassess the Jan. 29 decision to close the Cactus Cafe and end UT's informal classes, said Zach Bidner, a co-founder of the organization.

UT alumna Tiffany Walker contributed ideas about reassessing Union budgeting and thinking of ways to help meet the budget without phasing out the cafe. She said with students contributing ideas, the Union Board could have found more creative ways to meet its budget.

"Andy Smith, [University Unions executive director], and Juan Gonzalez, [vice president for student affairs], had already decided everything in December," Walker said. "Shame on them for not taking a step back and really considering if the closure needs to happen. It was a poor decision

from University management."

The SEC proposal assumes that the cafe will close and addresses possible ways to best utilize the space for students, while the Steinberg-Meller and the Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe's proposals push to preserve the cafe's current use as a functional music venue.

Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe, founded by Bidner, Hayley Gillespie and Matt Portillo, met Monday to discuss the closed-door decision to cut Union expenses and to create strategies for refocusing the role of the cafe. Ideas in the proposal suggest that if the cafe is to see another year, it must work to integrate students more through establishing music business internships, implementing a student-artist-in-residence program and providing workshops to unite professional and student musicians.

"We want to be a grassroots student group that is involved with the cafe and works toward its well-being, advocating and marketing cafe events to students," Portillo said.

Student involvement is a large issue in the fight to keep the Cactus Cafe open, since the Union Board



UT graduate Tiffany Walker attends a Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe meeting in the Texas Union Showroom Monday night. The group met to discuss its proposal to keep the Cactus Cafe operating in its current state. The group's proposal is one of three under review.

has acknowledged a dropping student attendance at cafe events.

To show the widespread desire of students to keep the cafe open as a music venue, the Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe plans to host a letter-writing campaign in the near future to the members of the Union Board, Portillo said.

"We want them to know through letter-writing that we are deeply interested in saving the Cactus Cafe," Portillo said. "We think the administration owes it to the students to listen to things we are invested in and feel passionate about."

The effectiveness of the draft-

ed proposal and letter-writing on the Union Board's final decision, scheduled to be announced April 30, is still in question.

Gonzalez is currently reviewing all three proposals. Gillespie said she is unsure whether the Office of Student Affairs plans to select the strongest proposal,

combine all of them together or write a new one completely before presenting it to the Union Board.

"We don't know if the Union Board's decision will involve our input or if they will again make decisions behind closed doors," Gillespie said.

DIIA: Leaders name privacy of online course-instructor surveys as main priority

From page 1

looking into is moving all end-of-semester course-instructor surveys online. Currently, most professors conduct the surveys on Scantron sheets with a space for student comments at the bottom. Moving the surveys online would make the student comment section accessible through the Texas Public Information Act, which

may invoke questions about the privacy of faculty members.

"I think those are legitimate concerns, and we need to be careful in handling them," Ritter said. "Having [the surveys] are key, but if we can do them more effectively, then it's something to look into."

Ritter said she believes DIIA can better connect at the college and department levels by operating through the provost's office.

She said the division has more potential to work with professors in redesigning courses to accommodate students.

"The hope is that [by] being in the provost's office – and with the provost's office being the center of academic life in the campus – it will help us work more closely with the academic community [and] make it more closely attached to the colleges and

schools," Ritter said.

Ashcroft said DIIA's transition from the Continuing and Innovative Education office to the provost's office should be seamless and have no direct effect on students.

The Continuing and Innovative Education department works with a diverse clientele and receives no subsidies from the state or the University. Ser-

vices include providing online schools for kindergartners up to college seniors, conducting professional development courses for adults and running a charter school. The department pools together resources from different colleges across campus and operates through fees charged to its customers.

Ashcroft said she feels the current economic atmosphere will

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UTSA atheist group receives widespread attention for its ‘smut’ exchange

By Katherine Noble
Daily Texan Staff

A UT-San Antonio student organization is receiving national media attention after members encouraged students to trade in their religious texts for pornography.

The fourth annual “Smut for Smut” event, hosted by the Atheist Agenda March 1-3, offered free pornography magazines like Playboy and Penthouse to students ages 18 and older in exchange for their Bibles, Qurans, Torahs and other religious literature. The event drew international feedback, including press from Australia, New Zealand and Spain, according to the organization’s Twitter account. Most media reported on the resulting UTSA student protests. San Antonio College’s newspaper, The Ranger, reported that

Atheist Agenda President Carlos Morales had to change his phone number at the end of the week to avoid the influx of hate calls.

“The campus response was astounding,” said “Joe,” an Atheist Agenda officer, in an e-mail sent from the organization’s address.

“Obviously, it had a lot of negative response from the religious side,” he said, “but we had some religious people sitting with us because they believed in our freedom to do what we were doing, which was pretty awesome.”

According to its blog, the organization works to promote open-mindedness regarding morality. It claims that religious texts teach people to be closed-minded and promote violence, misogyny, slavery and genocide. According to the blog, pornography is less ap-

palling than these teachings.

The campaign, created in 2005, aims to engage students in dialogue about the effects of orga-

ty are we ignored by the religious majority. Smut for Smut riled up so much attention that it got people to come up and actually talk

reasons to be angry with Christians because they can come across as closed-minded and judgmental. However, he was proud of the students from different religions who attended the event not to trade in their religious books, but to listen and engage in the dialogue.

“Christians can be easy targets, but I asked students to think about how Jesus wants us to respond,” Prather said. “There is no need for arguing or prayer demonstrations, but instead, I think Jesus wants us to thoughtfully listen to atheists’ objections and engage in meaningful dialogues.”

Jafar Ayyad, the president of the UTSA Muslim Student Association, said he was extremely disappointed that the campaign was allowed on campus. He said he encouraged Muslim students to

keep their distance from the event, so it would not gain any more attention.

“Such obscene gestures should be filtered from an educational setting,” Ayyad said. “Just as students are not allowed to conduct sexually explicit searches on the school network, they should not be able to take part in such things on the campus setting, as well.”

This year, “Smut for Smut” received about 23 copies of religious texts. Because not everyone wanted a magazine, they handed out a few less in return.

“I have a charge to respond in love to everyone, even if they antagonize me. I don’t think the moral teachings of the Bible give me another option,” Prather said. “We have to resist being riled up by things we find offensive.”

“Smut for Smut’ was an event used to get people talking to us. Too often as a minority are we ignored by the religious majority.”

— Joe
Atheist Agenda officer

nized religion.

“‘Smut’ for Smut was an event used to get people talking to us,” Joe said. “Too often as a minority

with us about our views.”

Kevin Prather, director of the Baptist Student Ministries at UTSA, said many atheists have legitimate

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BASKETBALL
COLUMN

Texas hopes
to regroup
in conference
tournament



Laken Litman
Daily Texan
Columnist

March Madness is finally here. It's funny to think that just seven weeks ago, I was so close to making plane reservations for the Final Four in Indianapolis for the first weekend in April. Oh, how the tables have turned.

To recap: Texas started this season with a perfect 17-0, earned the No. 1 ranking in both the AP and USA Today/Coaches polls then spiraled further and further downward in the Big 12 conference until the piling losses made Damion James nearly cry at a press conference.

Now, the Longhorns' record stands at 23-8 — 9-7 in the Big 12 — and it's time to either flip that switch Rick Barnes has been talking about or sit at home and watch a No. 1 seed take the NCAA title.

The Big 12 Tournament starts Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. Texas has garnered a No. 6 seed and will play No. 11 Iowa State in the first round Wednesday night. The Longhorns played the Cyclones in their second conference game of the season, beating them in Ames, Iowa, 90-83. The Cyclones are 4-12 in conference play, but this past weekend, they beat No. 2 seed Kansas State on the road in an overtime thriller, 85-82.

For Texas, the worst-case scenario in the Big 12 tournament would be to lose the first game against Iowa State. Then, the team has a week to regroup — or do whatever it is they do in practice — for the NCAA tournament, which starts on March 16.

MARCH continues on page 8

WOMEN'S GOLF

Golfers showcase athletic talent



Courtesy of Texas Athletics

Sophomore Nicole Vandermade watches her ball after teeing off. Vandermade played golf, basketball and ran track in high school and uses her experience with those sports to help her excel on the golf course.

Two-sport high school athletes comprise most of Longhorns' roster

By Shabab Siddiqui
Daily Texan Staff

It's usually the athletically challenged, self-proclaimed sports pundits who utter phrases like "golf shouldn't count as a sport" and "golfers aren't really athletes."

The members of the Longhorns women's golf team could argue with them. More than likely, though, they'll just show them up in a different sport.

While on the surface it may seem that golf uses a completely different skill set than most athletic endeavors, the Longhorns boast a team full

of cross-sport athletes, a trend that trickles down from head coach Martha Richards.

Raised in Hudson, Wis., Richards excelled at both golf and basketball, winning the state's top award in each of the sports in her junior and senior years. Boasting a 3.95 GPA, Richards entered Stanford as a rare two-sport athlete. She played on the Stanford basketball team for three years, winning a national championship in 1990, and on the golf team for two years, winning All-American honors in 1993.

Richards likens swinging

a golf club to shooting a free throw or jump shot.

"There's a lot of eye-hand coordination in both," Richards said. "Golf is the wide-open jump shot with no one around you every single time. When [basketball players] really take too much time and try to make their shot look perfect, it's an air ball or a brick. That's golf every time."

Richards said the reactionary nature of basketball creates the biggest difference between the two sports.

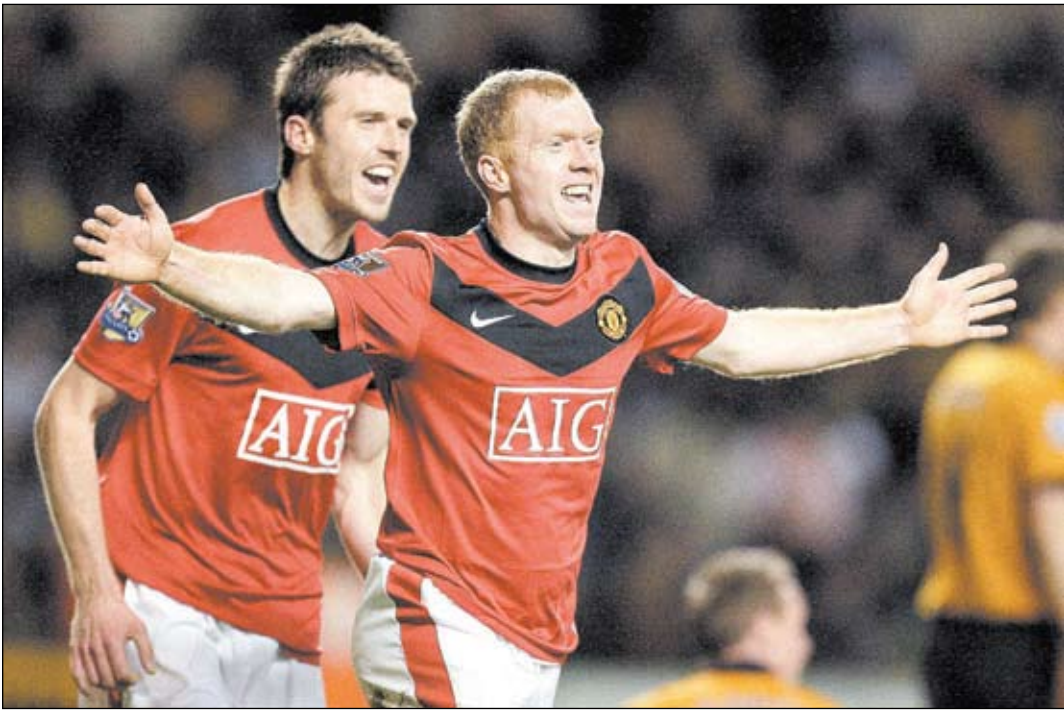
"In basketball, when you catch and shoot, that's when

you make more," Richards said. "The challenge is to find a way to let that natural athletic ability take over [in golf]. It takes some practice to not think yourself into trouble."

Athletic ability, once an unnecessary extra in a golfer's repertoire, has become increasingly more visible on the course, in part due to the influence of Tiger Woods, Richards said. Richards served as a volunteer assistant for Stanford from 1993-96, during Woods' stint with

GOLF continues on page 8

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER



Jon Super | Associated Press

Manchester United's Paul Scholes celebrates after scoring his 100th Premier League goal against Wolverhampton Wanderers on Saturday. Manchester United won 1-0.

Manchester United uses late
goal to beat Wolverhampton

By Rishi Daulat
Daily Texan Staff

Paul Scholes' 100th Premier League goal could not have come at a better time.

Manchester United was in danger of slipping to third with a draw or loss when Scholes, the unlikely hero, secured a win against Wolverhampton, putting the Red Devils at the top of the table by two points.

Scholes broke a goal-less, uneventful stalemate in the 72nd minute after he got himself free in the middle of the box and wrong-footed Wolverhampton goalie Marcus Hahnemann to score into the bottom left corner.

The English midfielder was humble when describing the significance of his goal and what it meant for his team's title chances.

"It was nice. I had a similar chance against West Ham a cou-

ple of weeks ago, but thankfully, this time I managed to score," Scholes told SkySports.com. "I have been on 99 for a while now, so it is nice to get it done. I am really pleased I have managed to achieve it. It has put us top of the league, and hopefully we can stay there. It was a big win. The pitch wasn't great, and I don't think they were too interested in playing football either. They were just trying to stop us, which made it difficult. When you scrape through like that, when you are just hanging in, it is as good as getting five."

The Red Devils lead Chelsea by two points, although the Blues have a game in hand. Arsenal continued their recent fine form with a 3-1 win over Burnley and is currently level on points with Chelsea. The race for fourth is still crowded with teams; Tottenham and Manchester City are tied on

points, while Liverpool and Aston Villa trail by one and three points, respectively.

Spain's La Liga has a new leader as well. Real Madrid took advantage of a Barcelona-Almeria draw and came back from a two-goal deficit to earn a thrilling 3-2 win over Sevilla at the Estadio Bernabeu.

Though Real Madrid is still tied for points with Barca, Madrid now has the advantage in goal differentials. "Los Blancos" have six straight league wins and are back in first place for the first time since early October.

On Wednesday, both Real Madrid and Manchester United's attention will turn to the Champions League. Real Madrid faces Lyon, who trail 1-0 in aggregate, at home, while Manchester United faces AC Milan at Old Trafford with a 3-2 lead.

BASEBALL

Horns look to stay
productive at bat

By Chris Tavarez
Daily Texan Staff

Texas will try to continue its winning ways during tonight's game against Texas State with the offensive production that it missed in its shutout loss to Houston on Saturday — but found in a big way against Missouri on Sunday.

After mustering only three hits and no runs against the Cougars, Texas came out with a 12-hit, eight-run performance against

the Tigers. That performance was due in large part to senior leaders stepping up and taking control.

After Saturday's loss, seniors Russell Moldenhauer and Kyle Lusson organized a meeting to get the offense to be as productive as the defense.

"We talked with all the players and talked about how we were feeling at the plate," senior Jordan Etier said. "I think that did

TEXAS continues on page 8



Bobby Longoria | Daily Texan Staff

Senior Russell Moldenhauer walks to the plate during last week's game against UTPA.

SIDELINE

NCAA Men's Top 25

Saint Mary's 81
No. 14 Gonzaga 62

NCAA Women's Top 25

No. 7 Notre Dame 44
No. 1 Connecticut 59

Temple 55
No. 5 Xavier 57 F/OT

Rutgers 49
No. 9 West Virginia 56

Pepperdine 48
No. 17 Gonzaga 76

NBA

San Antonio 95
Cleveland 97

Atlanta 98
New York 99

Golden State 131
New Orleans 135

Dallas 125
Minnesota 112

New Jersey 101
Memphis 107

NHL

Dallas 4
Washington 3

Columbus 0
Los Angeles 4

AP Men's Basketball
Top 25

1. Kansas
2. Kentucky
3. Syracuse
4. Duke
5. Ohio State
6. Purdue
7. West Virginia
8. New Mexico
9. Kansas State
10. Villanova
11. Michigan
12. Butler
13. Wisconsin
14. BYU
15. Tennessee
16. Pittsburgh
17. Temple
18. Gonzaga
19. Maryland
20. Vanderbilt
21. Baylor
22. Georgetown
23. Texas A&M
24. Xavier
25. Ute

AP Women's Basketball
Top 25

1. Connecticut
2. Stanford
3. Nebraska
4. Tennessee
5. Xavier
6. Notre Dame
7. Duke
8. Ohio State
9. West Virginia
10. Florida State
11. Texas A&M
12. Oklahoma
13. Georgetown
14. Iowa State
15. Texas
16. Baylor
17. St. John's
18. Gonzaga
19. Kentucky
20. Oklahoma State
21. Hartford
22. LSU
23. UCLA
24. Georgia
26. Michigan State

SPORTS
BRIEFLY

Football team's open practice
gives peek of things to come

Texas' second open practice will be today at 3:45 at Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium.

The Longhorns' second practice open to the public was supposed to be held yesterday, but poor weather and class conflicts pushed the practice back a day. The coaches also wanted to give the players an extra day off after Saturday's scrimmage.

The Horns' last open practice was last Tuesday and provided fans an opportunity to see what the offense would look like next season.

Quarterback Garrett Gilbert took nearly half of his snaps from under center, and Texas focused heavily on its running game, anchored by Tre' Newton in the backfield.

Coach Mack Brown is looking to emphasize the running game more next season to help Gilbert adjust more quickly to his role as the starter and have less pressure on him.

— Chris Tavarez

GOLF: ‘Multi-sport culture’ fosters unity

From page 7

the Cardinal. Richards claims to have even beaten Woods in a chipping contest — but won’t reveal how many chipping contests she lost to him.

“I like the athletic players, with strength and the way they carry themselves, and I think we’ve seen a tremendous increase in athleticism,” Richards said. “Up until this fall, [Woods] was a tremendous influence in making golf cool to play.”

Richards’ penchant for athleticism influences her recruiting, as well. Although the Longhorns do not boast any collegiate two-sport athletes, most of Richards’ recruits have lived a life of the jock variety.

“It takes you a lot of time before you find out that they actually did play a lot of other sports,” Richards said. “You can tell athletes at whatever sport they do because it looks easy and fluid, and you have an eye for it.”

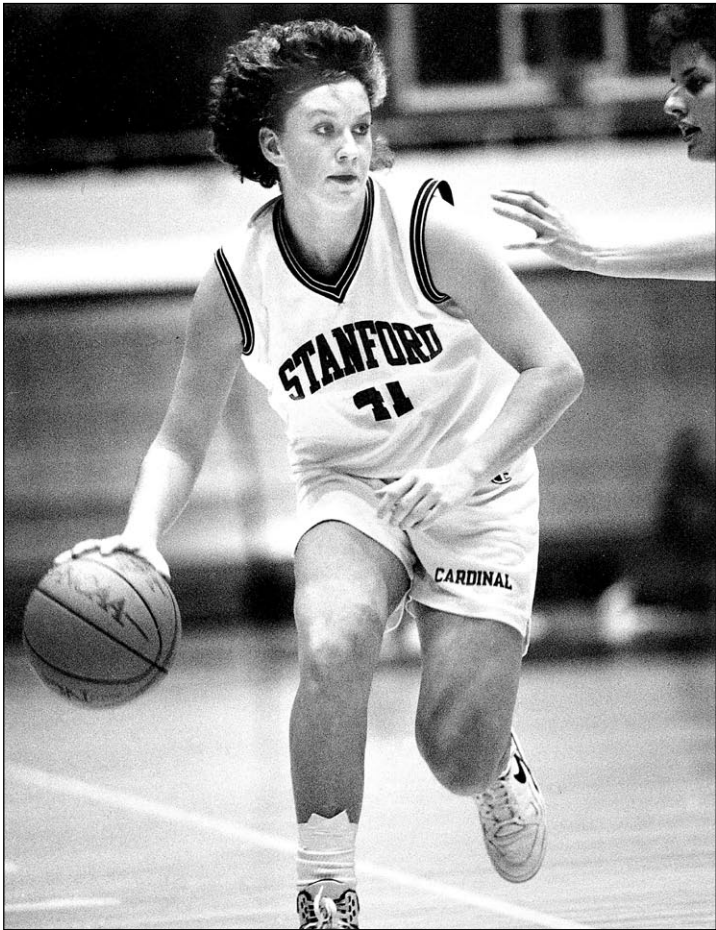
Sophomore Nicole Vandermade, Richards’s first recruit as head coach at Texas, was a three-sport athlete in high school, excelling at golf, basketball and track. She said the concept of having a short memory comes in handy in both golf and basketball.

“In basketball, if you miss an easy shot, you just have to forget about it and get back on defense,” Vandermade said. “That’s like in golf, where you just have to not worry about it and try to make it up on your next shot.”

The difference, she said, is in the approach.

“In basketball, if you’re on the court, you’re in the zone,” Vandermade said. “But in golf, it’s five hours long. You have to be able to get in the zone and get out of the zone.”

Freshmen Desiree Dubreuil and Katelyn Sepmore played soccer and basketball, respectively, while freshman Haley Stephens said she tried a bit of everything sport-wise — including playing in men’s basketball and baseball leagues.



Courtesy of Stanford Athletics

Texas women’s golf coach Martha Richards, shown here in 1988, won a national championship in basketball at Stanford, where she was also an All-American in golf.

Stephens, who fired a 3-over-par 75 to guide the Longhorns to fourteenth place at the end of the first day of the UNLV Spring Rebel Invitational in Boulder City, Nev., said she feels golf has taught her more about other sports rather than it being the other way around.

“My other sports are a lot more fast-paced, and in golf, your thoughts are constantly going,” Stephens said. “Golf is the toughest mentally.”

The multi-sport culture of the Longhorns also works to create a team-oriented dynamic absent from traditional golf, Richards said. Together, the team members attend other UT sporting events or crowd into each others’ dorm rooms to watch a game together. Vandermade, born and raised in Canada, took her fair share

of ridicule after her home country’s men’s hockey team fell to the Americans in the preliminary rounds at the Olympics — only to get the last laugh following Canada’s gold-medal finish on Sunday.

Vandermade and Richards also boast a basketball rivalry of sorts. As of press time, Richards was the H-O-R-S-E champion among the two, while Vandermade stands as the one-on-one champion.

While cross-sport athleticism is a trend in the Longhorns locker room, the team is not quite ready to cross golf off the list of “real sports.”

“It’s definitely a sport, walking around in the blistering heat for five hours at a time with a 40-pound bag and keeping your mental cool,” Vandermade said. “You can’t knock it until you try it.”

MARCH: Texas has a chance at making deep tournament run

From page 7

The best-case scenario would be for the Longhorns to beat the Cyclones, which would give them a rematch against Baylor on Thursday. If Texas loses to BU, it will be their fourth consecutive loss to the Bears.

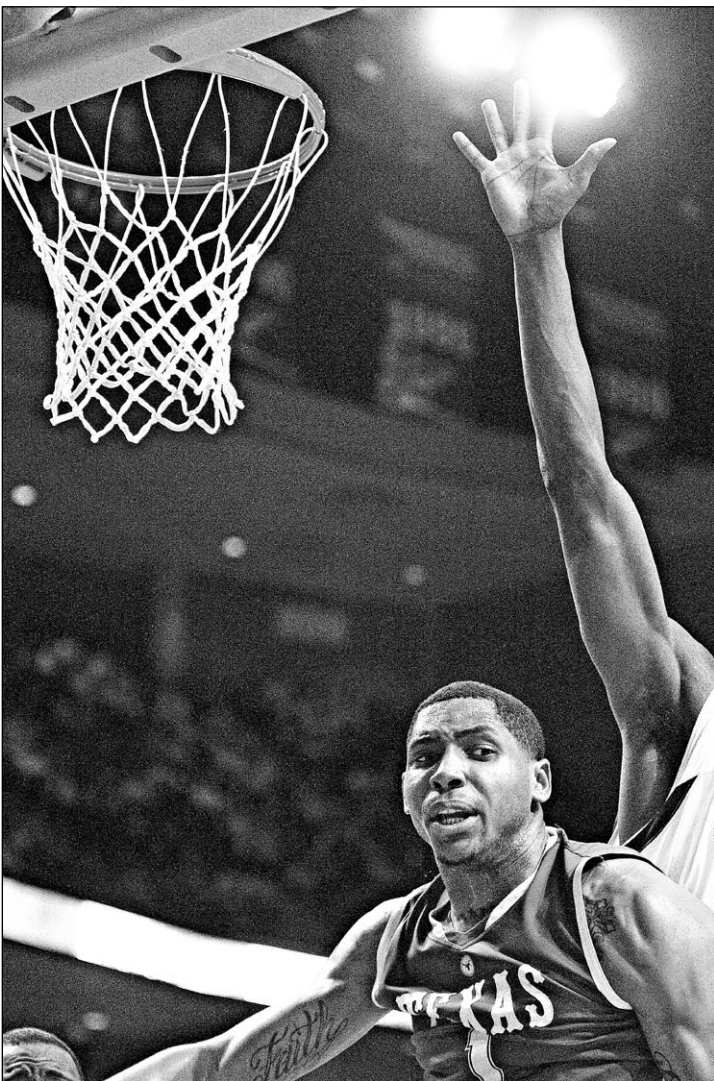
But let’s say Texas beats Iowa State, then Baylor, then Kansas State (if KSU beats the winner of Oklahoma vs. Oklahoma State) — all of which is possible. The Horns would most likely face Kansas in the finals. Now you have the Longhorns, who have been inconsistent all season, facing the No. 1 seed with tired legs and fatigued emotions. But maybe this is the time for all of us to see that Texas spark that’s been under wraps. Maybe James and company will revert back to their old winning ways and get hot. Or, maybe not.

Having traveled to Texas’ away games at Texas A&M and Baylor this season, I’ve learned that despite what anyone (Barnes in particular) thinks, the home crowd plays a significant role. With the Big 12 tournament’s Kansas City location, Kansas, Kansas State and even Missouri will be heavily represented in the stands, and that will no doubt be a factor.

But really, with as much talent as this conference has, anything can happen. Barnes, Texas A&M coach Mark Turgeon and Baylor coach Scott Drew have been quoted saying that “the Big 12 is the best college basketball conference in the nation.” We’ve seen Iowa State beat Kansas State, and we’ve seen Oklahoma State beat Kansas this season, which leads to the logical conclusion that at the end of the tournament, any school could be hoisting up that championship trophy.

Thinking Texas could make it to the finals is not crazy, but a loss in the first round isn’t, either.

Moving on to NCAA bracketology. Obviously, we won’t truly know what’s what until Selection Sunday, which is this Sunday,



Amanda Martin | Daily Texan Staff

Gary Johnson and the rest of the Longhorns hope to make a surprise run in the Big 12 tournament, which starts Wednesday.

March 14. The worst-case scenario for this tourney would be for Texas to be a No. 8 or No. 9 seed. If they win their first game, they’d have to play a No. 1 seed — Kansas, Syracuse, Kentucky or Duke — in the second round. Yikes.

But the way ESPN college basketball analyst Joe Lunardi has it right now, Texas is a No. 7 seed and would face a No. 10 seed in the first round. If the Longhorns win their first game, they’ll play the winner of No. 2 vs. No. 15 seeds, and Lunardi currently has player-of-the-year favorite Evan

Turner and his Ohio State Buckeyes as the No. 2 seed in the same region as Texas. So, again, yikes.

Similar to the Big 12 tournament, the NCAA tournament could also be anyone’s game.

Be that as it may, Texas has not been impressive in this latter half of the season while the majority of the other teams earning bracket seeds are heating up. I won’t be surprised if the Longhorns make a strong run down the tournament stretch, and I won’t be surprised if they’re back home in Austin after their first game.

TEXAS: Dicharry set to take mound against TSU

From page 7

us a lot of good.”

“We got together and talked about the lack of confidence we showed ... and that we wanted to be like our pitching staff,” senior Tant Shepherd said.

The Longhorns hope that the meeting will lead to some offensive support for Austin Dicharry, tonight’s starter against the Bobcats.

Head coach Augie Garrido thinks that Texas’ offensive explosion against Mizzou will help the Horns against Texas State in the first of a two-game set spread out across the season.

“We wanted to take every at bat and everything we did in [Sunday’s] game to build confidence,” Garrido said. “That’s the one word that makes the difference in this game, and I think we did a pretty good job with that.”

“I think [Sunday’s] game helped us a lot. I think we all felt confident, and it kept building as the game went on,” Etier said. “We just have to stay more consistent and get ready for Texas State.”

Returning home to UFCU Disch-Falk Field after Texas’ first road series of the season will provide a welcome advantage to Dicharry that Texas’ pitchers didn’t have this weekend. Minute Maid, with its leftfield fence only 315 feet away from home plate, is an extremely offensive ballpark.

Despite being at a disadvantage as far as fields are concerned, Texas was still able to hold its opponents to an average of under four runs per game, thanks in part to great defense and pitching.

“[Pitching] is what our strong point is,” Garrido said. “In addition to that, all of us know that UFCU is a defensive ballpark be-

cause of the slow infield and the large fences. So you put that all together, and we all know that defense wins championships.”

But even with a solid defensive showing from the entire team, Brandon Loy knows the offense will have to help out the pitching and defense.

“We’re a good defensive team,” Loy said. “Things, defensively, they’re there. The problem with our team is we’re not getting up at the plate with confidence, and that’s why we’re not playing as well as we can. We’re playing great defense, but that’s not going to always win games for us. We’re going to have to come out and do stuff offensively, too.”

So, look for Garrido to rely heavily on his seniors to emphasize the importance of carrying the confidence from Sunday’s offensive explosion to help Dicharry tonight.

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SPORTS BRIEFLY

Old Dominion secures its bid to the NCAA tournament

RICHMOND, Va. - Top-seeded Old Dominion beat William & Mary 60-53 in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament championship Monday night to earn the league’s automatic berth in the NCAA tournament.

Old Dominion (26-8) won the league’s guaranteed bid for the first time since 2005, and may have ended William & Mary’s hopes of qualifying for the tournament for the first time.

William & Mary (22-10) is one of five original Division I schools, along with Army, The Citadel, Northwestern and St. Francis, N.Y., never to have been included in an NCAA field.

The loss left William & Mary hoping a resume that includes road victories at Wake Forest and Maryland of the Atlantic Coast Conference and Richmond of the Atlantic 10 will impresses the selection committee. Otherwise, they seem assured of a berth in the NIT, which would also be somewhat historic for the program; only in 1982 has the Tribe played in a postseason tournament.

The Tribe was just 9 for 31 on 3-pointers.

— The Associated Press

Alumna's visit to UT showcases social-justice groups



Kathryn Fuller, chair of the board of trustees for the Ford Foundation and former president and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund, discusses the effects of different foundations on social change at the UT School of Law on Monday.

By Gabrielle Cloudy
Daily Texan Staff

A UT alumna and philanthropist emphasized the importance and influence of foundations to social-justice policy on Monday.

Kathryn Fuller, chair of the

Ford Foundation Board of Trustees, talked to faculty, students and various social-justice organizations about philanthropy and how foundations can play integral roles in social justice.

Formerly the president and

CEO of the World Wildlife Fund, Fuller is the UT School of Law's first G. Rollie White Public Interest Scholar in Residence. For the next three days, Fuller will give presentations that will focus on how charitable foundations can advance social

change, and she will also field questions from students.

The Ford Foundation, an entity separate from Ford Motor Company, is an organization established in 1936 that works with leaders around the world to promote social change and has advocated for the rights of all citizens, including women and minorities. It is one of the largest foundations in the world.

"She's a very strong speaker and has so much experience in the real world and foundation community," said Melinda Taylor, director of the law school's Center for Global Energy, International Arbitration and Environmental Law. "We're really delighted because it's a great opportunity to hear from someone really successful. A lot of undergrad and grad students don't know the role non-government organizations play in social policy, justice and improving the world."

Eden Harrington, director of the William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law, said Fuller was chosen to share both her interesting perspective and her variety of experiences with students.

"Students and faculty have

the opportunity to hear from a top leader in the foundation world," Harrington said.

At the presentation, Fuller discussed the history and rise of philanthropy, various foundations' roles in historical movements and the challenges that foundations and nonprofit groups face today.

"This is a topic that should have more attention ..."

— Nancy Lopez
Economics freshman

"The economic decline has [contributed] to a drop in foundations, and they have much less maneuvering room," Fuller said. "It's also a hard time for nonprofits. Many are going under."

Laura Huffman, state director of the Nature Conservancy of Texas, will speak with Fuller on Wednesday about preserving biodiversity.

Huffman said the presentation is a good opportunity for providing students with an understanding of how nonprofits view climate protection and how they are funded.

"[The event] puts together research and funding in one panel," Huffman said. "It's a very comprehensive look at the issue ranging from the science to the solution."

Economics freshman Nancy Lopez said that it was great to have a speaker of such magnitude give students an inside perspective of what goes on inside a foundation.

"This is a topic that should have more attention from the general public," Lopez said. "People should be more aware about what foundations actually do."

Fuller said she hoped students took away an understanding of the complexity of philanthropy.

"When working in social justice, you have to be prepared to adapt and stick with grantees and programs, even when results of grant-making aren't apparent," Fuller said.

At 1 p.m. today, Fuller will give a presentation titled "Law as a Path to Leadership in Non-profit Organizations" in the Jamail Pavilion.

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REMEMBER! you saw it in the Texan

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TRICKY TROUBLES

Solution: 9 letters

R S A S W I N D L E T P E M S
E O H A Z Y E B K N U S A T W
V L R L K C S D E N I D N R I
I V D R O S I I F R I O R I T
E E U D E G R A P U I H S A C
C M E N I O I R P T S E T L H
E B Y R S R U C C U N I N G
D L L I K S U I M C Z I W I M
S E D U S N D E O Y T Z A G A
Y P D E R A L M L B S W L R Y
D E U A R B P I I G S T I E B
U G V T O L W A R N N C E S E
O E N R E L B A M U J D A U R T
L O P X U S S E M U O U R T Y
C H E A T C S X E L P R E P E

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 3/9

Blur, Brain, Cheat, Cloudy, Complex, Contradiction, Cunning, Curve, Decalve, Decode, Disorient, Error, Guess, Hard, Hazy, Jumble, Loaded, Logic, Maybe, Mess, Mind, Murky, Mystery, Obscure, Perplex, Problem, Puzzle, Riddle, Rigid, Setup, Skill, Sly, Sneak, Solve, Surprise, Swindle, Switch, Tangle, Test, Think, Trap, Trial, Turn, Twist, Unfair, Unravel, Warn, Willy, Wits

Yesterday's Answer: Politics

Therapy 7 Stars check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each (\$14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume. \$1.30 p/bn for each additional volume. To: Universa Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64108 or call 1-800-445-4450. Center online at: updates.com.

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Men and Women 18 to 55

Call for compensation details
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI between 18 and 32
Fri. 12 Mar. through Mon. 15 Mar.
Fri. 19 Mar. through Mon. 22 Mar.
Fri. 26 Mar. through Mon. 29 Mar.
Fri. 2 Apr. through Mon. 5 Apr.

Men 18 to 45

Up to \$1500
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI between 18 and 30
Tue. 16 Mar. through Sat. 20 Mar.
Outpatient Visit: 23 Mar.

Men and Postmenopausal or Surgically Sterile Women 18 to 50

Up to \$1600
Healthy & Non-Smoking
Thu. 18 Mar. through Mon. 22 Mar.
Outpatient Visits: 26 Mar. & 2 Apr.

Men and Postmenopausal or Surgically Sterile Women 18 to 45

Up to \$1000
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI Between 18 and 30
Weigh between 132 and 220 lbs.
Wed. 24 Mar. through Fri. 26 Mar.
Outpatient Visits: 27, 28 Mar. 1 Apr.

Women 18 to 40

Up to \$4000
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI between 19 and 30
Weigh between 110 and 250 lbs.
Two Weekend Stays
Multiple Outpatient Visits

Men and Women 18 to 50

Up to \$1200
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI between 18 and 32
Wed. 24 Mar. through Mon. 29 Mar.

Men and Women 18 to 45

Up to \$2500
Healthy & Non-Smoking
BMI between 19 and 32
Thu. 1 Apr. through Sat. 3 Apr.
Thu. 8 Apr. through Sat. 10 Apr.
Thu. 15 Apr. through Sat. 17 Apr.
Thu. 22 Apr. through Sat. 24 Apr.
Outpatient Visit: 28 Apr.

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SUDOKU FOR YOU

	9					2	5	
		7		3	5	4		
	5	8		7				
8								1
	4	6	2	5	8	9	7	
	2							8
				1		3	9	
		3	5	9		8		
1	4					6		

Yesterday's solution

8	4	2	6	7	9	3	5	1
3	9	5	8	4	2	6	7	2
1	6	7	3	5	2	8	4	9
6	5	3	2	9	4	7	1	8
7	1	8	5	6	3	9	2	4
9	2	4	1	8	7	5	3	6
5	3	9	4	2	6	1	8	7
2	7	1	9	3	8	4	6	5
4	8	6	7	1	5	2	9	3



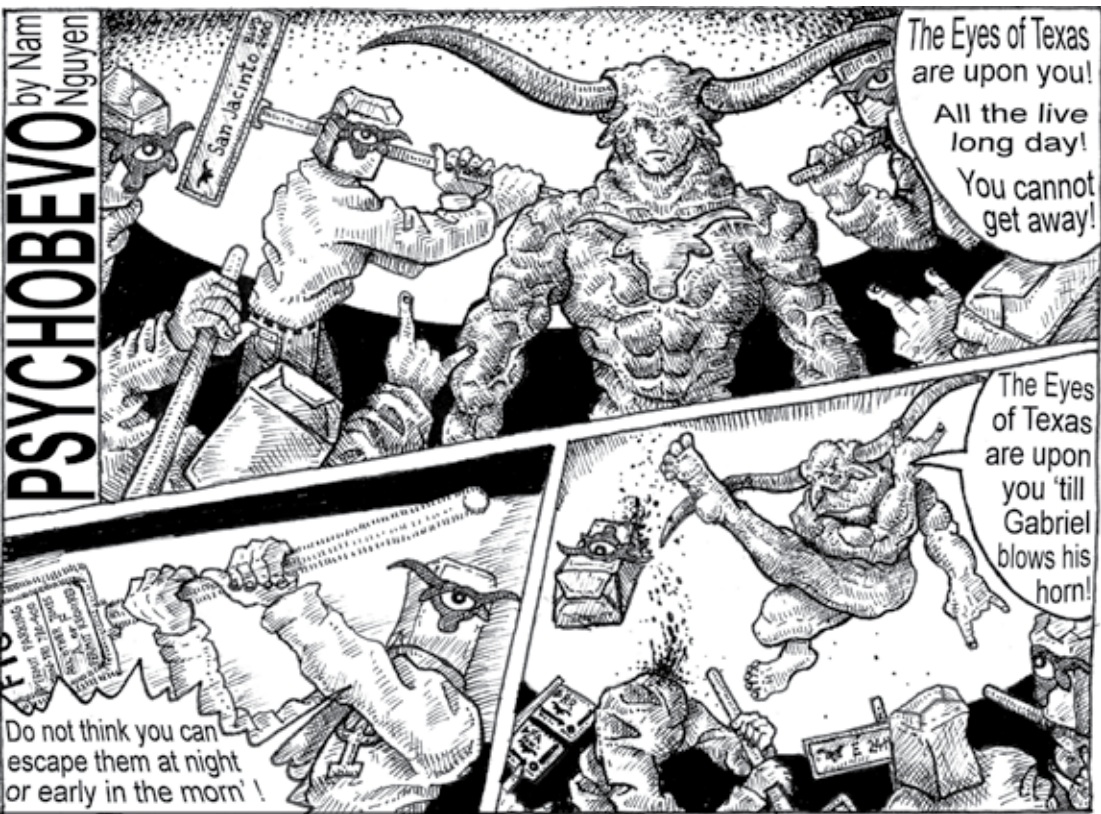
JELLY FISH

by gabe

actually, it's a man o' warrrgh

I GOT YOU BRO.

now do me bro!



PSYCHO BEVO

by Nam Nguyen

The Eyes of Texas are upon you! All the live long day! You cannot get away!

The Eyes of Texas are upon you 'till Gabriel blows his horn!

Do not think you can escape them at night or early in the morn'!

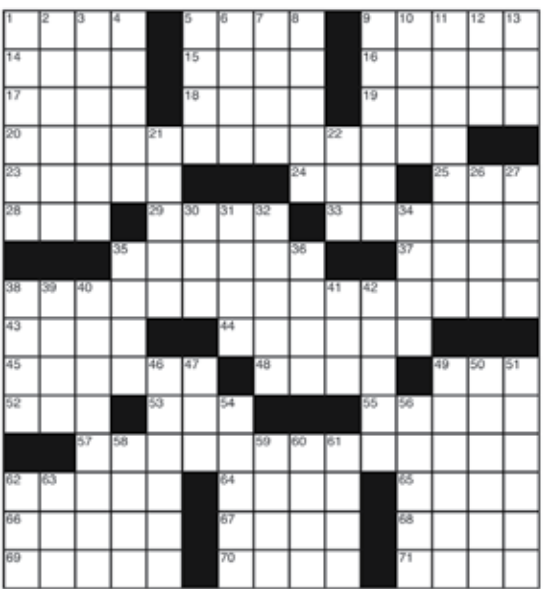
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0202

- Across**
 - 1 Brainy Simpson
 - 5 Try, as a case
 - 9 In pieces
 - 14 A Grimm beginning?
 - 15 Lui: him :: ___ : her
 - 16 First unelected president
 - 17 Suffix with dino-
 - 18 Fabrications
 - 19 Faintest residue
 - 20 Outcome of many a boxing match ... or 38- and 36-Down
 - 23 Sniggler
 - 24 St. Louis Blues org.
 - 25 One in the hand?
 - 28 Pig's home
 - 29 Corn units
 - 33 Venerate
 - 35 It's sometimes good to get back to them
- Down**
 - 37 Wood-shaping tool
 - 38 Interstates ... or 60-Down and 65-Across
 - 43 "Yikes!"
 - 44 Three-ingredient treats
 - 45 Well-thought-out
 - 48 "... you noblest English ...": "Henry V"
 - 49 ___ favor
 - 52 Something to roll over, briefly
 - 53 Brit. reference
 - 55 Weeper of mythology
 - 57 Crushed by sorrow ... or 5-Across and 63-Down
 - 62 Greek porticos
 - 64 Skateboard trickster's track
 - 65 Partner of means
 - 66 Nail-biting
- Down**
 - 67 Modern storage units, briefly
 - 68 "Aha!"
 - 69 Early Icelandic literary works
 - 70 U.S. Open's ___ Stadium
 - 71 Drag racing org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RAMIS STEEL KAT
ALACK NOWAY WOE
PICKYEATERS INN
INAYEAR SMOCKED
DEW SEW ALOE
SST HUR OMSK
JAVAN RICKILAKE
AVILA ENL ACREED
WIKIPEDIA MATES
SAKE MSN FAT
TINRE GRO MRE
LECTERN EXCLAIM
ERA MICKEYMOUSE
AIR ETAIL OGDEN
HER TARTS NOEND



Puzzle by Alex Fay

- 36 Priority of ___ (group in "The Da Vinci Code")
 - 38 Tenth: Prefix
 - 39 Noted lab assistant
 - 40 Tramp
 - 41 Miracle-___
 - 42 Temporary tattoo dye
 - 46 Hangmen's tools
 - 47 Shatner's "___ War"
 - 49 Soapmaking stuff
 - 50 One following directions
 - 51 Exodus locale
 - 54 Skin: Suffix
 - 56 Golfer Hale ___
 - 58 Tabula ___
 - 59 Scottish rejections
 - 60 Daily temperature stat
 - 61 Otherwise
 - 62 Fr. holy woman
 - 63 Slugger Williams
- For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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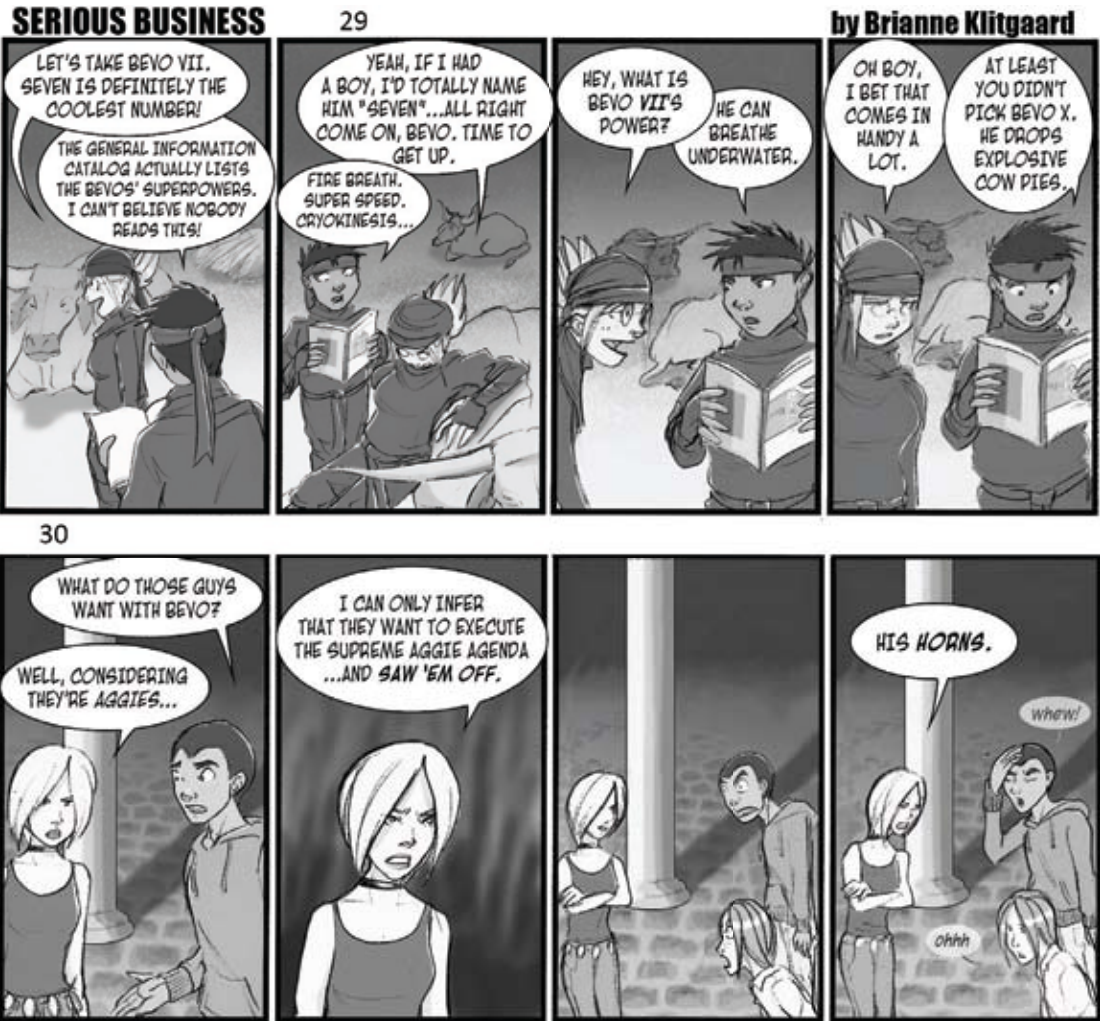
Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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SERIOUS BUSINESS

29

by Brianne Klitgaard

LET'S TAKE BEVO VII. SEVEN IS DEFINITELY THE COOLEST NUMBER!

THE GENERAL INFORMATION CATALOG ACTUALLY LISTS THE BEVOS' SUPERPOWERS. I CAN'T BELIEVE NOBODY READS THIS!

YEAH, IF I HAD A BOY, I'D TOTALLY NAME HIM "SEVEN"...ALL RIGHT COME ON, BEVO. TIME TO GET UP.

FIRE BREATH. SUPER SPEED. CRYOKINESIS...

HEY, WHAT IS BEVO VII'S POWER?

HE CAN BREATHE UNDERWATER.

OH BOY, I BET THAT COMES IN HANDY A LOT.

AT LEAST YOU DIDN'T PICK BEVO X. HE DROPS EXPLOSIVE COW PIES.

30

WHAT DO THOSE GUYS WANT WITH BEVO?

WELL, CONSIDERING THEY'RE AGGIES...

I CAN ONLY INFER THAT THEY WANT TO EXECUTE THE SUPREME AGGIE AGENDA ...AND SAW 'EM OFF.

HIS HORNS.

WHEN?

OHhh



6 dollars, please

presents

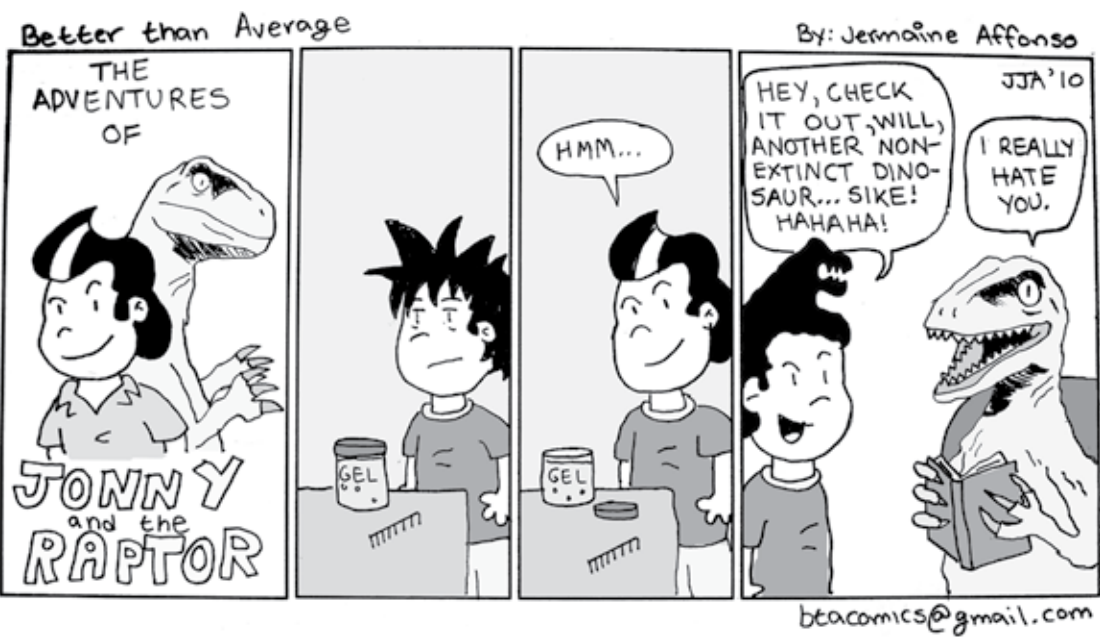
Jonathan

the most modest guy ever

by Jonathan Barcelo-Triguiez and Rachel Weiss

http://6dollarsplease.blogspot.com

It's true. I am.



Better than Average

THE ADVENTURES OF

JOHNNY and the RAPTOR

By: Jermaine Affonso

JJA'10

HMM...

HEY, CHECK IT OUT, WILL, ANOTHER NON-EXTINCT DINOSAUR... SIKE! HAHAHA!

I REALLY HATE YOU.

btacomix@gmail.com



ICEBREAKER

KATIE SMITH

THIS IS AWKWARD.

IT IS NOW!

...



NIGHT TALES: ???

By Sammy

Oh, there you are. What are you doing down there?

Nevermind, that. Just please get off of me.

By the way, I found an exit to this area. Quick, let us check it out! Follow me!

Hahahaha! With these magic beans I'll be the most powerful person ever!



Circumlocution

by C.C.

Hey hun. How would you feel if I drove down to Austin to see you?

Sounds great! When?

Well, I'll be there in about twenty minutes.

Festival offers smorgasbord of music, free food

SXSW #1 2010

Friday

- ① For those who love late-night and carnival food, **Molotov** (719 W. Sixth St.) will have free funnel cake from 8:30 p.m. until 1 a.m. RSVP now <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

March 12-20

- ② **PureVolume House** (504 Trinity St.) will host one of the rare free food events that will last all week long. Free tacos from Taco Bell will be served for the entirety of the festival. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Saturday

- ③ From 6 p.m. until 3 a.m., **Shangri-La** (1016 E. Sixth St.) will be serving free beer and barbecue. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Sunday

- ④ Free breakfasts are a rarity during SXSW. Luckily, a free brunch will be served starting at 10 a.m. at the **Adobe Day Stage** (500 E. Cesar Chavez St.). RSVP to the Facebook event.
- ⑤ For the nighttime, stop at the "Late Night with Cheezburger" event to eat as many burgers as you can at **Cedar Door** (201 Brazos St.) from

10 p.m. until 1 a.m. The first 250 arrivals will receive a drink ticket for a margarita. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Monday

- ⑥ From 4 p.m. until 9 p.m., **Kung Fu Saloon** (510 Rio Grande St.) will serve free beer and hot dogs provided by Man Bites Dog. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Tuesday, March 17

- ⑦ Stop by **Peckerhead's** (402 E. Sixth street) from 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. to pick up some local Sweet Leaf Tea and ever-popular late-night tacos from Taco Cabana. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Wednesday, March 18

- ⑧ Stop by the "Covert Curiosity" and "Sonic Itch Music's Eastside Get Down" Party at **The Independent** (501 Studios) from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. to pick up some free Salvation Pizza and Lone Star Beer. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

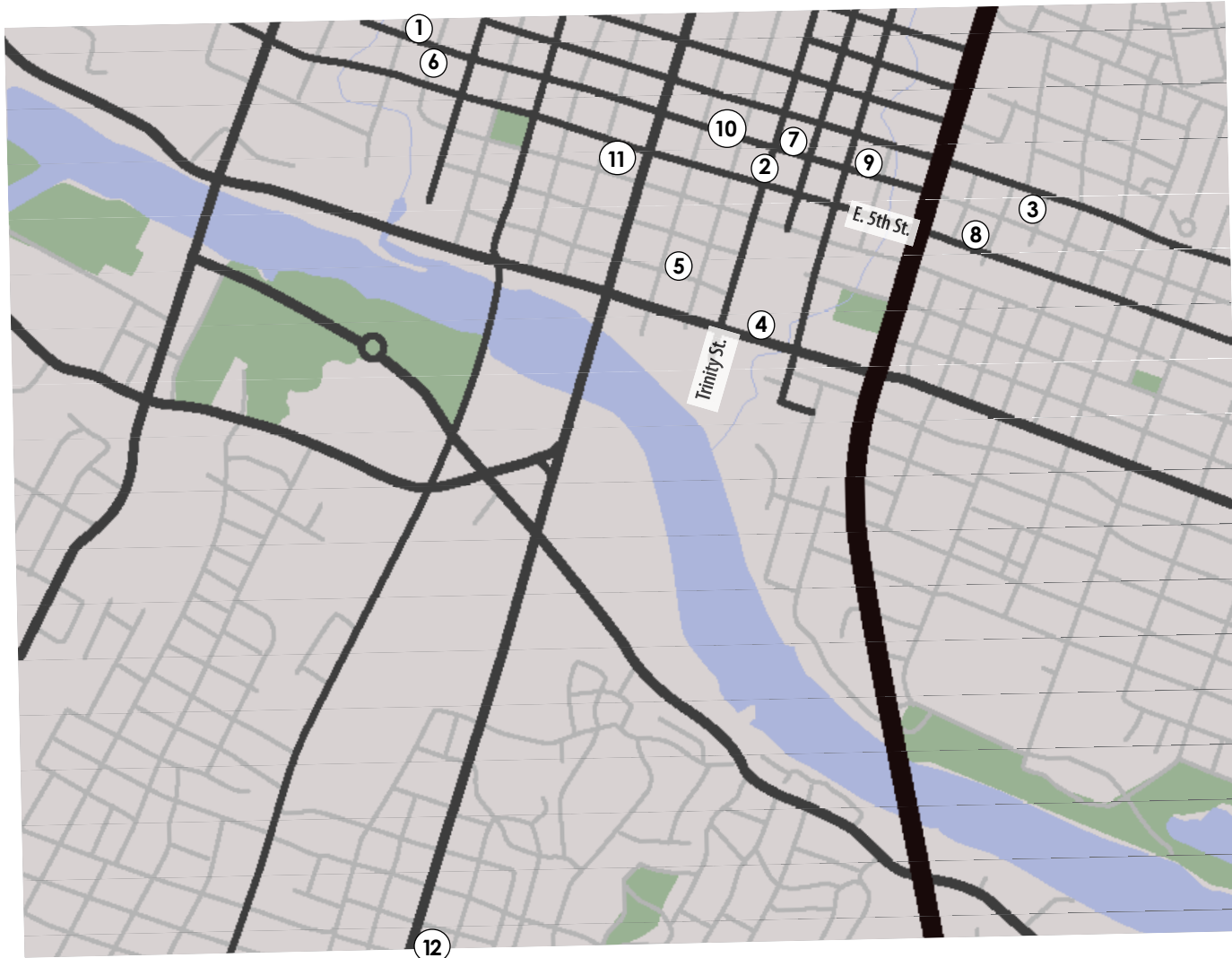
- ⑨ French music artists, including Uffie, will be at the "France Rocks Austin Party" from 12 p.m. until 6 p.m. at **Klub Krucial** (614 E. Sixth St.). You can pick up free food, champagne and beer. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Friday, March 20

- ⑫ **Soho Lounge** (217 E. Sixth St.) will be serving free cocktails and a variety of vegetarian options from 12 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. RSVP is required — e-mail RSVP@mpress-records.com.

Free ice cream and juice from The Daily Juice will be served at the **Galaxy Room's** (508 E. Sixth St.) "The Brooklyn Vegan and M for Montreal's Official SXSW Daytime Party," which will last from 12 p.m. until 6 p.m. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Ice Cream Man will be serving free ice cream throughout the week. No location has been specified, so just keep your eyes peeled. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.



When South by Southwest commences in the Live Music Capital of the World, human normalcy takes a backseat. Life becomes all about entertainment for one week.

Those who are most in-tune with the music festival manage to find any and every way to survive on what the festival provides — and it provides all that visitors need.

Anybody looking for ways to stay hydrated and nourished during the festival should know that free food and drinks will be provided at several events throughout the week.

Many of these events will serve the basic Tex-Mex and pizza, but anything free is worth trying. Keep in mind that many of these events require RSVPs and have an attendance limit, so RSVP early.

Below are just some of the many events that will provide free food and free drinks. Check various Web sites and blogs for updates on free food and drinks offered throughout the festival.

— Layne Lynch

Thursday, March 19

- ⑩ **The Parish** (214-C E. Sixth Street) will be serving free Mexican food while hosting "The SXSW Music Stimulus Party" at 12 p.m. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

- ⑪ For those who have grown tired of pizza, beer and tacos, Meteor Records, (419 Colorado St.) will have sushi from Austin's popular **Kenichi**. RSVP is required — e-mail assist@luckmedia.com.

- ⑫ The "4th Annual Morning After Party" will be taking place at **Front Gate Tickets** (1711 S. Congress Ave.) from 11:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. and offers free breakfast. RSVP at <http://sxswfreenoms.tumblr.com>.

Leno ousts Coco, hosts boring 'Tonight Show'



TV TUESDAY

By Robert Rich

Last Monday, it happened. Despite the outpouring of support for Conan O'Brien, despite the "I'm With Coco" T-shirts and all the viral Internet hoopla, Jay Leno returned to the desk of "The Tonight Show." If you already knew this because you watched his return, I'm disappointed in you. If you had no idea this had happened because you simply do not care, then you're good to go. For all intents and purposes, Jay's return was nothing spectacular, and the whole thing has fallen back into its familiar routine (i.e. Leno's awful monologue, bantering with Kevin and producing an all-around lackluster show) pretty quickly.

It's excruciating, horrible stuff. With that in mind, I've compiled a

list of things that are actually less painful than watching Jay Leno — again.

1. Go to a Nickelback/Creed concert. Chad Kroeger's stringy blonde hair and Scott Stapp's warbled, poorly enunciated vocals at least provide humor, something Leno has forgotten about completely.
2. Keep up with Twitter users posting updates only from FourSquare. Reading over and over about who's the mayor of their local H-E-B and adult video shop can be entertaining; Jay Leno can't.
3. Risk your luck on Chatroulette.
4. Try to save the Cactus Cafe. It's obvious the administration couldn't care less about saving this fine

LENO continues on page 11

Jay Leno hosts the "Tonight Show" after a controversial ending to Conan O'Brien's stint as the show's most recent host.



Photo courtesy of NBC

Flaming Lips talk Austin favorites

By Francisco Marin
Daily Texan Staff

From their four-disc experimental masterpiece *Zaireeka* to the mainstream hit *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots*, The Flaming Lips have nearly 30 years of alternative-rock prodigiousness under their belt.

The band never fails to surprise — their "Christmas on Mars" film, for instance — one thing that hasn't changed since the band started in 1983 is their penchant for a visceral and captivating live experience. And most fans didn't expect their latest release, a cover album of Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*.

The Daily Texan spoke with frontman and Oklahoma City native Wayne Coyne in preparation for Friday's Flaming Lips concert about his favorite things to do while he's in Austin and the absurdity that comes along with being an alt-rock icon.

The Daily Texan: So, the Flaming Lips have been around for nearly three decades. Your music has obviously evolved during that time. I was just listening to *Zaireeka* again recently and was kind of amazed at how incredibly different the music you've put out has become since then. Is there some sort of evolution you see with the band?

Wayne Coyne: These are good questions — I don't know if we could really conceptualize the music you're interested in or not interested in ... A lot of times, we really are scaterbrained and we are such fans of music, we can't choose — do we want to be this optimistic, humanistic group or do we want to be an experimental arty thing like in *Zaireeka*? And, I suppose we go with all of it, every part of us.

DT: What are your plans for Austin? What are your experi-

ences like in the city?

WC: I will go to this restaurant called Uchi, go to the San Jose Hotel ... We're always doing three or four things at the same time. There's so many people and so many drunk people, but I've always been embraced by the Austin scene and filmmakers — my big light show was made by some artistic freaks from Austin, and my film "Christmas on Mars" has people from Austin in it. Some of our best gigs were played with the Butthole Surfers, so there's definitely a connection between the Flaming Lips and Austin.

DT: What's a perfect day for you?

WC: [laughs] The perfect day would be lying in bed, watching good, boring TV and ordering room service. But then, another perfect day would be getting to play your music and meet new people and see exotic parts of the world. But I

would say I'd get to wake up and have sex with my wife, do some yoga, drink some coffee, have sex with my wife a couple more times and then go back to sleep. [laughs]

DT: Around this time last year, "Do You Realize" was declared the state rock song of Oklahoma. How did the band react to that?

WC: If it had just been that, it wouldn't have been overwhelming, but the last 10 years or so, there's been more involvement with the government and the mayor. And we made an effort to kind of look at this spot and say, "Can it be rejuvenated?" because I lived in one of the poorest parts of Oklahoma. Because the city planners and helpers know how much I've put into this little part of the city ... they've given me this little Halloween parade, and

FLAMING LIPS continues on page 11

Wild Moccasins return to old stomping grounds

Houston band returns to play several venues during SXSW festival

By Julie Rene Tran
Daily Texan Staff

Since the Wild Moccasins' debut at South by Southwest last year, the Houston indie band, known for getting its audience dancing and singing along with its catchy, melodic lyrics, has been pretty busy.

After overachieving and exhausting themselves at the festival by playing eight sets during their four days in Austin, the band geared up for its first tour later that March. In a small, white van, the Wild Moccasins

trekked across the Midwest to the East Coast, playing in cities like Mobile, Alabama and Brooklyn, New York to show-

ping across America again this coming April. However, this time around, the band has a new van and drummer.

"We love surprising our audience and making our shows more than just an average show..."

— Wild Moccasins

case their first album, *Microscopic Metronomes*.

The band will be road trip-

The posse now consists of lead singers (and lovebirds) Zahira Gutierrez and Cody Swann,

bassist Nick Cody, guitarist Andrew Lee and drummer Justin Martinez.

On top of preparing for an upcoming tour in April, the Wild Moccasins have been in the studio recording their new album, *Skin Collision Past*, set for release on May 21.

The band members talked with The Daily Texan about their crazy on-stage antics, the inspirations behind their upcoming LP and their favorite venues to play.

The Daily Texan: So what have you guys been up to since the last DT interview [in March of 2009]?

WILD MOCCASINS continues on page 11